[12th August 1954

Promulgation of an order under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code by the Stationary Sub-Magistrate of Kozhikode.

* 1291 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an order under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code has been promulgated by the Stationary Sub-Magistrate of Kozhikode on 9th April 1954 prohibiting meetings and demonstrations within the Municipal limits and 3 miles surrounding the Municipal limits, and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, Sir. A statement [a] is laid on the table of the House."

* 1292 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether an order under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code has been promulgated in and around Kozhikode, Malabar, for four days from 9th April 1954 prohibiting public meetings, processions, demonstrations, etc.; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to the starred question No. 1291 given notice of by Sri K. P. Gopalan, M.L.A."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" In the statement, it is stated that the Muslim League Conference was allowed to be held in Kozhikode in spite of the prohibitory order. But trade union organizations which were working for communal harmony were not given permission to hold meetings or to take processions for carrying on propaganda in favour of communal unity. May I know from the Hon. Minister why the trade union organizations should be treated in a different way from the Muslim League? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not know whether any applications were made by the trade union organizations for holding any public meeting and whether they were refused permission. Anyhow, I shall look into the matter."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Was it not just to oblige the sponsors of the Muslim League Conference that this order was not made applicable to that Conference? May I also know whether it is not a fact that the reason given by the Government for promulgating the order, viz., Hindu-Muslim communal tension, is incorrect? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The construction put by the hon. Member is completely wrong."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 591 infra.

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SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Is it a fact that some Muslim residents of Kozhikode wanted to stage a black flag demonstration against the Muslim League leaders when they arrived in Kozhikode and for the purpose of preventing such a democratic demonstration by the rank and file of the Muslim League that this order under Section 144 was promulgated? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" With regard to the intended black flag demonstration, perhaps the hon. Member seems to know much about it. But, as far as we are concerned, we wanted to maintain order in that place, especially because of the firing which took place on 28th March 1954. It is only in pursuance of that, a prohibitory order was issued."

SRI KUNHI MOHAMAD SHAFEE :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that certain parties interested in creating trouble attempted to take out processions in Kozhikode to create Hindu-Muslim hatred? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I know that certain parties were interested in creating trouble between Hindus and Muslims and exploiting the same."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" May I know whether anything happened after the Naduvattam incident just before the order was promulgated to necessitate the same or whether it was not promulgated just to oblige the Muslim League as suggested by me? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The fact that nothing happened cannot be taken into account and it cannot be said that the order should not have been issued."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" In view of what is stated by the Hon. Minister, viz., that the order was issued after the Naduvattam firing incident to prevent communal clashes, may I know whether the Government have not acted unwisely in allowing the Muslim League alone to hold their conference? Is it not unwise on their part to have done so? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir. This meeting was organized long before. Not only that. They agreed to hold the meeting inside an enclosed place, that is, within the precincts of an enclosed place. They also gave an assurance that nothing would happen which would incite any communal tension. Only after taking necessary undertakings and after seeing that they would be observed, this permission was given."

Overtime work in Government Press, Madras.

* 1293 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the answer to unstarred question No. 6, dated 19th March 1954, the necessity for the overtime work mentioned therein?